

Volume 47, Number 1

January 2007

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday January 4, 2007 - 7 PM

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM

Refreshments - Door Prizes

### HAMFEST SCHEDULE

SELARC Hammond - Jan 20, 2007

AARA Rayne - May 25 & 26

### Each Wednesday

**Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery

Check 146.820 - repeater for info

**Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.**

AARA Net 146.820 - 600

**Each Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**

ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

YL/XYL Only Net 146.820 - 600

a.k.a. Filly Net

## President's Message

I am writing this one week before old St. Nick arrives. I hope everyone has been good, so you may receive those nice radio goodies you desire. We had a great Christmas meeting with great food again furnished by our members. If you missed it, you really missed a fine feast.

The final race event took place this year. Herman KN5GRK, again did a good job. I had never worked this event, Half Marathon, but found it fun and well attend by the community. Unfortunately, we did not have many club members assisting, although many signed up for the event.

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus had a wonderful time communicating to the CMA on the radio, thanks to James KE5HGZ, Rachael KE5KEZ, Herman KN5GRK, Neil KC5BLQ for assisting me in this endeavor. We all had fun with the kids great reaction. While at the CMA, KLFY Channel 10 Video live our club station in action. In other CMA news, Nick K5QXJ will try to have the big yagi installed before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Seems that the FCC has given all you Technician Class license holder a very big Xmas present, by removing the Morse code (CW) requirement from all Amateur Radio Class's and expanding the HF phone band on 75 meters and 40 meters. The new band plan is in effect now, but the lack of CW testing will not take effect for 30-45 days.

I have a good feeling that many of our Technician Class holders in the area and nation wide are going to get some real nice HF gear this year. If you have not operated HF, please spend time listening on the HF bands to learn how communications is done. And, don't pick up some bad habits heard on 75 meters sometime. If you do, I am afraid your Elmer(s) and hams you know, including I will correct you quickly.

(continued on page 4 column 1)

### AARA OFFICERS 2006-2007

**President - Roland Guidry NA5Q**

na5q@w5ddl.org

**Vice Pres - Stratos Imvriotis KE5DCI**

**Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Charlie Morrison KI5XP**

**Shannon Lytle KE5CKT**

**Danny Griffith K5ARH**

**Public Relations Officer**

**Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN**

**Newsletter Editor**

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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:  
**Acadiana Amateur Radio Association**  
P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building  
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

## ATTENTION!

All *persons or clubs* that have been receiving a hard copy of the LARC in the mail need to send me your e-mail address if you wish to continue reading the LARC so we can send out a reminder to you when it is available on our website. Copies will be available at our regular monthly club meetings.

We are attempting to reduce our postage and printing expenses.

Herman Campbell KN5GRK  
Editor LARC

## AARA 2006 VE Testing Results

The following are the results for the AARA VE team's 2006 test

MONTH	TECHNICIAN	CODE	GENERAL	EXTRA
February 2	1			1
March 11	6		3	1
May 4	2	1	1	
June 1	2			
July 6		1		
August 3	2	3	3	
August 23	23			
August 27		1		1
September 7	4			
October 5	1			
October 21	43		1	1
November 2				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

sessions.

I feel this has been a very successful year for the AARA VE Team. I would also like to extend my thanks to all the VE's that helped out at all of the test sessions. Without them we could not have had such a successful year.

Danny K5ARH

## Cajun 1/2 Marathon Race

The Cajun 1/2 Marathon Race took place on Saturday December 2 at Acadiana Park off E. Alexander St, Lafayette, LA. The AMOS van arrived around 6:30 AM driven by John KA5BSE. It was a very cold morning, temperature around 27 degrees with frost on the ground. The race kicked off at 7:30 AM, the runners made two trips around the residential neighborhood track which made a total of just over 13 miles. Our ham radio operators spaced around the course did not report any accidents or assistance from the race director Russell Bex.

Each ham radio operator that helped in the race received a very nice long sleeve "T" shirt with the race logo on front. We were supposed to get a bowl of Frito-pie (chili with Fritos mixed) but the supply ran short before the race ended. I think I was the only one that received a bowl, thanks to John KA5BSE.

I operated the HF radio from inside the van and made a few contacts to some of the SkyWarn Special Event stations and John and Maureena KB5SMX provided communications to the race command post at the finish line. Those that helped with the race were:

John KA5BSE; Maureena KB5SMX; Greg K5LFT; Roland NA5Q; Larry KE5KJD; Danny K5ARH; Jack KE5LAY; Jerry KE5KEG; Rachel KE5KEZ; and myself, Herman KN5GRK.

(see Santa Claus in the next column)

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

N = NEW

R =

JOHN MYRICK	NQ2V	R
ROBERT	N5OA	R
McMULLEN		
STEPHANIE	K5STP	R
McMULLEN		
JACK WINN	KE5LAY	R
RICK BREAU	N5RLM	R
JOY BREAU	N5YCS	R
LEWIS GLADDIS	KE5DGM	R
ROLAND	NA5Q	R
GUIDRY		

## Santa Claus

After the Cajun 1/2 Marathon Race concluded, I was privileged to play the part of Santa at the North Pole (actually from the AMOS van) to a group of young children doing a tour of the Children's Museum of Acadiana at 10:30 AM Saturday morning.

TV 10 was doing a live feed from the Museum's ham radio station letting the children give their Christmas want list to Santa via 2 meter radio. The kids ranged from the ages 3 to 8 years old.

I was told that when Ole Santa came back to them over the radio, their eyes lit up and big smiles came across their faces. I think this made a big hit with the parents and visitors at the museum.

Although I probably did not sound like the real Santa, it made me feel really good inside to make a kid smile and believe in something.

Thanks for Rachel KE5KEZ for playing Mrs. Clause and Neil KC5BLQ for playing "Big Bird".

**HO, HO, HO...Merry Christmas!**

Herman KN5GRK a.k.a. Santa



Reprinted from the *CMA Tatter* magazine that went out to thousands of supporters in Acadiana for the October-December 2006 issue.

## “Hamming” It Up At the CMA — Our Newest Exhibit!

What is that large antenna on the roof of the Children's Museum of Acadiana? K5CMA will soon be up and running for you amateur radio operators out there and others interested in ham radio. The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association (AARA) 125+ member strong organization is sponsoring an amateur radio station at the Children's Museum of Acadiana. Other corporate sponsors assisting include Acadiana Office Plus; Doug Ashy Building Materials; Allen Bacque, Architect; B.E.O. Contractors; Edmund Scientific; Rayne State Bank and Trust Co. and the Estate of Stu Rohner. This station will be equipped to provide communications around the world and in space with other amateur radio operators through various modes including voice, Morse code, analog and digital.

Enjoyed by over 700 thousand people of all ages and occupations in the United States and millions worldwide, amateur radio is a hobby that provides participant's with technical knowledge, communications skills and is, above all fun. Amateur radio operations, also known as ham radio, use two-way radio equipment to communicate

with other operators around the world and even in space. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) reserves radio bands for amateur radio use just above the AM broadcast band through extremely high microwave frequencies. Amateur radio operators must pass an exam given by the FCC in order to obtain a license to operate on these bands.

Many think the term “ham” is an acronym standing for something else, but it is not. According to The American Radio Relay League (the national association for Amateur Radio), a “ham” is defined as “a poor operator” or “A’plug.” In early days of radio, frustrated commercial operators often referred to amateurs as “hams” because they could effectively jam up radio signals making them difficult or impossible for other operators to use. Amateur operators willingly embraced the term, taking pride in thinking of themselves as renegades. Though amateur operators are no longer viewed as renegades, the name has stuck.

The main purpose and goal of the amateur radio station at the CMA is to educate youth in the various communication modes,

technical aspects of electronics, human relations and communication drills. Youngsters of all ages will get the thrill of communicating with persons in other countries, breaking down barriers and learning the way of life of youths in other countries. In addition, communication via satellites will be possible, along with possible contact with the Space Shuttle and Space Station Astronauts. The technical and communication skills learned through the use of radio will be highly beneficial in the future. Licensing classes at the CMA are being planned and will be taught by local amateur operators so that persons of all ages can experience this great hobby.

The AARA, in conjunction with the museum, is presently completing the installation of the equipment and antennas for the station. The amateur radio station is scheduled to begin operation in November. Additional corporate sponsors are welcome!

Roland Guidry, AARA



(continued from page 1 column 1)

I have mix feelings about all this, because it was always an interesting part of our hobby when discussing ham radio with the non-hams. But, it is and will always be a mode of operation of last resort, when conditions for communicating are poor.

At the January club meeting, an important Board meeting report will be read for club members to consider and vote on at the February meeting. In addition, a slate of officers commencing in March 2007, will be reported on by the Nomination Committee. Voting for officers and board members will be held at the February club meeting.

Wishing everyone a Season's Greeting and Happy Holidays from Ronnie and I.

73, Roland Guidry NA5Q  
President

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## REFLECTING BACK ON YEAR 2006

We here in South Louisiana have had a very good year, for one thing "No Hurricanes", I think we have had enough to last for a few years. Some of the displaced persons from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita have made Acadiana their future homes. Trying to cope with the traffic, population explosion, gas prices and other problems have not deterred us too much although it did wake us up to how valuable ham radio was needed during these storms. Most of the hospitals and medical facilities in this area have set up ham radio stations and trained operators to get their licenses in order to handle traffic when needed. The figures on page 2 of this newsletter shows the largest increase in new hams that have ever happened in one year. Many of these new hams have shown interest in upgrading to higher levels and with the new FCC decision to drop the Morse code requirement on all amateur radio licenses, this should be even more incentive to upgrade.

Another plus for our club was the successful 2006 hamfest which left many talking about it for months and looking forward to the 2007 hamfest, which will be a month later next year which is another plus "Crawfish Season will be in full swing" and we know how you like those things!

The AARA also had a few projects and events on the agenda, the biggest is our help in setting up the amateur station at the Children's Museum of Acadiana. I think this is one project that may pave the way for some new younger hams to come our way and to put amateur radio in the spotlight for us. Some of the other projects were the three marathon races that we assisted in placing spotters around the courses to relay info to the command posts, this was a good training project for some of the new hams. Field Day was another big event for us, we had a lot of fun and came out 50<sup>th</sup> Nationwide, 7<sup>th</sup> Delta Division, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Louisiana.

We did have one notable negative event in our club membership, the loss of one of our Senior long time members Stewart Rohner WD5FDD who became a SK on June 11, 2006. Herman KN5GRK



1/1	K5QXJ	NICK
1/3	N5AUO	BARBARA
1/7	KE5LCF	MARK
1/9	KE5LBY	CHAD
1/9	KE5LAY	JACK
1/10	N5EEH	DAVID
1/18	KE5LCI	KEITH
1/20	KE5DCI	STRATOS
1/26	KE5LBO	CHARLES
1/26	KE5IXQ	WAYNE
1/31	KE5KJC	JESSICA
2/3	KD5JZN	DEAN



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership application, this is why some may



## A WORD FOR THE WISE!

As you are now planning your New Year's Resolutions, you might want to check your driver's license if you have had a birthday in the last few months, **it may have expired!**

I went to have my vehicle inspected and found out my driver's license had expired two months ago. Luckily, I was not stopped by the police but I did have to pay a penalty for being late.



## Kicking off 2007 - Take Note!

### New 2 meter Net

The first HEAL Net (Hospital Emergency Area Linked Net) will take place at 1:00PM on Friday January 5th, 2007. The net frequency will be the 146.82/22 repeater - you will be given test messages and directed to a simplex frequency to handle the traffic. This is a training net so don't worry too much about how you will perform - the net will teach you the technique. Just show up and check in. I encourage all of you who are on duty and available as well as off duty who can make it to please be at your hospital's radio for the net kickoff. This net also welcomes non-medical persons to check in. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Rick Bourgeois, N5RY - Director of Communications

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### AARA Club Dues

2007 starts a new year for membership in the AARA. To pay your dues, go to the club website at: <http://www.w5ddl.org/memberlist.htm> click on "Membership Application" and print out the form. Be sure to fill out all information, especially your current e-mail address and month and day of birth (if you want it published in the LARC) and mail it to the address on the form or bring it to the next General Meeting to Joy Breaux N5YCS.

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### Children's Museum Special Event - New Year's Eve

The CMA will have an event on Sunday, December 30th around 5:30 PM. I believe I have the time correct...Nick K5QXJ, has been contacted by them to man the radio station to demo it to the public. This event occurs each year prior to the official New Years. I am sure Nick, could use some helpers (2-3) to assist with entrance and exit to the radio room and demonstrating radio. Anyone attending is sure welcome to bring their children or grand children. Anyone wanting to help out can call Nick at 337-258-2527 or e-mail at: [nickp@globalgroup.us](mailto:nickp@globalgroup.us)

Thanks and Happy New Year!  
Roland NA5Q

## AARA January 2007 Calendar

January 4	AARA General Meeting @ 7:00 PM - Red Cross Building VE testing at 6:00 PM
January 5	Hospital Net meets @ 1:00 pm on the 146.820 repeater.
January 20	Hammond Hamfest - see details inside this newsletter.

## January Special Events & Contests

January 1	Straight Key Night - CW
January 7	ARRL Kids Day - Sunday January 7, 2007
January 6-7	ARRL RTTY Roundup
January 11-17	KU9UUU - 513th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Virgin Islands
January 13-14	K0GPZ - White Oak Sled Dog Classic
January 13-14	North American QSO Party - CW
January 13-15	K2BR - Absecon Lighthouse 150th Birthday
January 14-15	N2MO - "Project Diana" first successful moonbounce experiment
January 15-24	K1D - Elementary School Demonstration
January 20-21	North American QSO Party - Phone
January 20-22	ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes
	Check out the ARRL website for more detail at: <a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

## SELARC 26<sup>th</sup> Annual HAMMOND HAMFEST

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2007.**

SLU UNIVERSITY CENTER

800 W. University Avenue

Hammond, LA

1 & 3/4 miles east of I-55 Exit 32

**FREE admission and FREE parking**

**Talk-in: 147.000- & 145.130- PL 107.2**

**Doors Open 8:00 AM**

VE Testing, Forums, Dealer Displays,  
Swap Tables & Lots More.

Hourly Prize Drawings

\*\*\* Main Prize Drawings \*\*\*

@ 2:30 PM

**Grand Prize** - Yaesu FT-8900 quad band transceiver with Remote Kit 50W Output on 10m, 6m, 2m & 35W Output on 70cm 800+ Memory Channels, Crossband Repeat.

**Second Prize** - Yaesu FT-8800 VHF/UHF 50/35Watt Dual Band Mobile Transceiver with Remote Kit, 1000 Memory Channels, Crossband Repeat.

**Third Prize** - Yaesu FT-2800 VHF 65Watt 2m Mobile Transceiver 200+ Memory Channels, WX Channels w/Alert.

**Fourth Prize** - Yaesu FT-1802 VHF 50 Watt 2m Mobile Transceiver 200+ Memory Channels, 136-174MHz Receive Range.

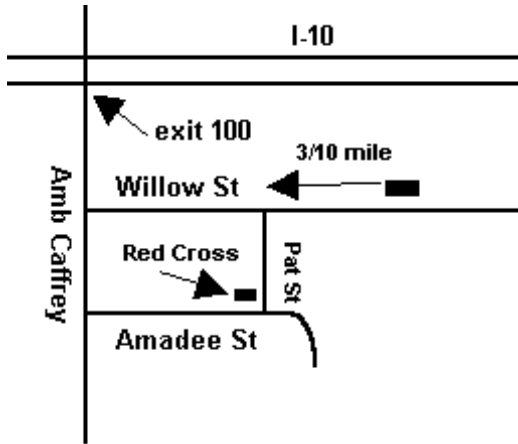
For more information, check out the website at:

<http://www.selarc.org/selarchamfest.htm>



**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



COMPLEMENTARY  
ISSUE

## **AARA GENERAL MEETING - Jan 4, 2007**

**Red Cross Bldg., 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**

**7:00 PM - VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**

Refreshments - Door Prizes

## **Quick and Easy Peach Cobbler**

Mary Brown - Crystal Hill Baptist Church, Little Rock, AR

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 CUP FLOUR                | 1 CUP SUGAR                |
| 1 1/2 TSP. BAKING POWDER   | 1 STICK BUTTER             |
| 3/4 TO 1 CUP MILK          | 1 LARGE CAN SLICED PEACHES |
| 1 TSP. CINNAMON (OPTIONAL) | 3 TBSP. SUGAR (OPTIONAL)   |

Melt butter in a 2 quart casserole dish in 375 degree oven while combining flour, sugar, and baking powder. Add milk to the dry ingredients and stir until blended.

**Method 1 :** Pour the batter into the melted butter; dribble peach juice into the mixture and add peaches. Sprinkle top with cinnamon and sugar. Bake 30 to 40 minutes at 375 degrees.

**Method 2 :** Arrange peaches and juice in melted butter. Drizzle batter back and forth over fruit. Bake 30 to 45 minutes or until golden brown.



## **FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE**

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or [ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245